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EXCISE

Tripoli 2132 9-12-69

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ACTION AF 18

INFO OCT 01,EUR 17,NEA 13,IO 13,E 15,COM 08,INT 06,SSO 00,CIAE 00,
DODE 00,JPM 04,H 02,INR 07,L 03,NSAE 00,NSC 10,P 03,RSC 01,
PRS 01,SS 20,USIA 12,AID 28,PC 04,SCS 04,SCA 01,O 02,SY 03,
OPR 02,OC 06,UCF 05,PER 02,RSR 01 /212 W

066649

P 021324Z SEP 69
FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4597
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BENGHAZI
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
CINCUSAFE
USCINCEUR
COMSIXTHFLT
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES
AMEMBASSY BAIDA

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY [redacted] DATE 12 JUL 1982
PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED

C O N F I D E N T I A L TRIPOLI 2132

SUBJECT: SITREP 1300, SEPTEMBER 2 - LIBYA

REF: TRIPOLI 2116

1. RADIO REPUBLIC LIBYA REPORTS EVER INCREASING TELEGRAMS INTO RCC HEADQUARTERS FROM PROMINENT OLD REGIME FIGURES HEADED BY FORMER PRIME MINISTER QADHAAFI AND BAKKUUSH. IMPOSSIBLE DETERMINE AT THIS POINT, HOWEVER, HOW MANY ARE GENUINE. [redacted] BIEC

[redacted] CONVERSATION

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WAS ONLY GENERALITIES.

2. THREE-HOUR LIFTING OF CURFEW APPARENTLY WENT OFF WITHOUT ANY SERIOUS THREAT TO PUBLIC ORDER OR RCC. STREETS OVERFLOWED WITH TRAFFIC; MANY VEHICLES JAMMED WITH PASSENGERS BEGAN HEADING OUT OF CITY TOWARD COUNTRYSIDE EVEN BEFORE CURFEW OFFICIALLY LIFTED; OTHER CARS AND TRUCKS LOADED WITH EXUBERANT YOUNG MEN RACED AROUND CITY BLOWING HORNS WAVING BANNERS AND JOYFULLY CELEBRATING POPULAR REVOLUTION. TRIUMPHAL ARCHES BLOSSEDM ALONG WHEELUS ROAD. IMPROMPTU PROCESSION OF CHILDREN CARRYING BANNERS AND PALM BRANCHES PARADED THROUGH STREETS. LARGE HAPPY CROWDS OF YOUNG ADULTS MOVED PEACEFULLY THROUGH DOWNTOWN STREETS TO ACCOMPANIMENT OF REPEATED VOLLEYS SMALL ARMS FIRED INTO AIR. IN RESPONSE RCC ORDERS, SOME TRIPOLI TRAFFIC POLICE REPORTED FOR DUTY AND TOOK OVER JOB DIRECTING TRAFFIC FROM ARMY PERSONNEL. SINCE REIMPOSITION CURFEW 1300 LOCAL THERE SEEMS BE NOTICEABLY LESS SMALL ARMS FIRE AROUND CITY.

3. LT COLONELS HASUUMI AND SHENNIIB (CO AND DEPUTY CO RLAF) RETURNED TO RLAF AREA AT WHEELUS MORNING SEPT 2. FOUR RLAF F-5'S DEPARTED UNARMED FOR BENGHAZI AREA; TWO F-5'S TOOK OFF AND MADE LOW OVERFLIGHT TRIPOLI. LIBYAN SUPER-NUMERARY POLICE WALKED OFF JOB, AND NO LIBYAN EMPLOYEES REPORTED FOR WORK AT BASE.

4. FOLLOWING CONSULTATIONS WITH WHEELUS CO, CHARGE AGREED TO BROADCAST OF SIMPLE STATEMENT OVER WHEELUS RADIO THAT ALL USAF PERSONNEL WHO LIVE ON BASE ARE TO REMAIN ON BASE UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE AND THAT AFRTS WILL ANNOUNCE FURTHER INFORMATION AS IT BECOMES AVAILABLE. EMBASSY POLICY, OF WHICH CO WHEELUS HAS BEEN INFORMED, IS THAT WHEELUS RADIO AND TV ARE NOT RPT NOT TO REPORT OR COMMENT ON LIBYAN EVENTS. POLICY IS BASED ON CHARGE'S CONVICTION THAT SUREST WAY TO BRING ABOUT CLOSURE OF WHEELUS RADIO/TV IS TO IDENTIFY IT AS SOURCE OF NEWS ON INTERNAL LIBYAN DEVELOPMENTS.

5. WYNNE OF ESSO INFORMED CHARGE THAT RCC, FOLLOWING INTERVENTION OF ACTING U/S, MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM, HAD AGREED PERMIT DEPARTURE LOADED TANKERS FROM OIL PORTS. REQUEST DEPARTMENT PASS OIL COMPANIES.

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6. WHILE DOMINANT MOOD OF POPULACE HAS BEEN FRIENDLY TOWARD AMERICANS, APOLOGETIC FOR INCONVENIENCES OF CURFEW AND VEHICLE SEARCHES, AND GENERALLY HELPFUL WHENEVER POSSIBLE, EMBASSY HAS LEARNED OF ISOLATED INSTANCES OF ANTI-AMERICAN ATTITUDES AND COMMENTS. GEORGIMPOPOLI NEIGHBORS OF MAAG SERGEANT TOLD FAMILY MORNING SEPT 2 IT HAD BETTER BEGIN PACKING BAGS BECAUSE AMERICANS WERE NO LONGER WANTED IN NEW REVOLUTIONARY LIBYA. ON OTHER HAND, PCVS WHO HAVE CHECKED IN WITH RCC REPORT NO DIFFICULTIES. (SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF PCVS OUTSIDE LIBYA ON HOLIDAY.)
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